

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 IO-12 AGR-20 STR-08 AID-20

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01

SS-14 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 L-03 TAR-02 RSR-01

/171 W

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R 222103 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6655

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, CO

SUBJECT: COFFEE: EXTRAORDINARY COFFEE CONGRESS

BEGIN SUMMARY

RESPONDING TO A REQUEST BY 11 DEPARTMENTAL COFFEE COMMITTEES, THE NATIONAL COFFEE COMMITTEE CONVENED AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE NATIONAL COFFEE CONGRESS ON MARCH 20. THE COFFEE GROWERS PRINCIPAL GRIPE IS THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT PERMITTED AN INCREASE IN THE INTERNAL SUPPORT PRICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN THE GROWERS AND THE GOVERNMENT IN OCTOBER 1972. MINFIN RODRIGO LLORENTE SPOKE TO THIS COMPLAINT FOR ONE AND ONE HALF HOURS AT OPENING SESSION ASKING, IN EFFECT, GROWERS TO UNDERSTAND CERTAIN DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES REQUIRING THE GOVERNMENT TO MOVE SLOWLY IN INCREASING DOMESTIC COFFEE PRICE RELATIVE TO INTERNATIONAL PRICE INCREASES.

END SUMMARY

1. AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE NATIONAL COFFEE CONGRESS, COMPOSED OF GROWER REPS FROM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, WAS CONVENED ON MAR 20. AT OPENING SESSION, GROWER REP COMPLAINED

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THAT GOVT HAD VIOLATED AGREEMENT MADE IN OCT 1972. AGREEMENT SPECIFIED THAT NATIONAL COFFEE COMMITTEE WOULD MEET EVERY 30 DAYS TO REVIEW INTERNATIONAL PRICE MOVEMENTS AND TO MAKE RELATED ADJUSTMENTS IN THE DOMESTIC SUPPORT P BURDENING MOI' S FACILITIES.) DESPITE A SUBSTANTIAL COMMUNIST PRESENCE AND CONTROL OF SUPPLY ROUTES IN KIEN TUONG (REF B), THE GVN CONTROLS THE POPULATION; HES RATING SHOW ONLY TWO C HAMLETS, WITH THE REST BEING A AND B. THE GVN CAN PROBABLY EXPECT TO KEEP THE ELECTIONS UNDER NATIONALIST CONTROL AND AVOID RISKING SERIOUS COMMUNIST INTERVUCTION.
NUNKER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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